

DATE: March 26, 2021

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SUBJECT: Friday Update

A pretty active week to say the least:

First, a couple housekeeping items:

- A first public workshop on the City Budget will be held on Monday, March 29 evening at 6:00 on zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81787410019> The Second will be held on Wednesday, March 31 at 12:00, also on zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89608938215>
- Both workshops will be "listening sessions" for the public to express their interests in the City Budget, tell us what they want and even what they want less of. We will do a little polling of folks and hopefully some break out sessions, zoom style.
- A really good City Council Meeting on Monday with the highlight being an overview report for the Auburn Police Department. Here is a link to their presentation which is really well done!
https://auburn.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=2&event_id=1614&meta_id=16075

Finally....

Tuesday evening, Auburn Police and Fire (along with neighboring agencies) experienced a critical incident when one of our Auburn Police Officers was in a serious vehicle accident. The collaboration of our public safety partners in the care of our injured officer and addressing the incident becomes compounded when it is literally "one of our own." Kudos to our Police Dispatch, Auburn Fire and AMR, our Police Command Staff, our regional partners and our entire team for their response, care and administration of the incident.

The incident drew regional media attention and a press conference was held on Wednesday and included one of the bystanders who assisted in the extrication of our officer from the vehicle which had partially caught fire. In an amazing interview Jacob, his girlfriend Cloe and their handsome 8 month old son "junior" recounted their actions in the rescue of our officer. It was quite the story and a recount of someone stepping into a serious situation and becoming a "hero." After the news conference, I had a chance to visit with Jacob and get some of the inside on what he did to help in the extrication. It turns out as he was helping pull the officer from the car, Cloe and their son were on the other side of the fence as his backup to call in resources to assist. A family effort in coming to the aid of someone in a serious situation!

It was amazing talking with Jacob and Cloe because they just reacted and did what was in their heart. As Jacob described needing to climb into the crashed police vehicle to help leverage the officer out of the car from behind, he observed how heavy the officers' vest was and the overall compression of the interior. Cloe described how she was trying to be of

assistance with child in arms. It was a special moment for me as the City Manager being able to talk with these folks about their heroic experience!

We live in a really clunky age of social media and perceptions on our law enforcement. This situation was simple, someone in need and two people coming to their aid. It is that example of what is good about people and what living in a small town means. People helping people and in this case, someone coming to the aid of law enforcement. Jacob is a “hero” to one of our “heroes.”

John